



VETERINARY BOARD OF GOVERNORS
Minutes of Meeting

A meeting of the Washington State Veterinary Board of Governors was called to order at 9:00 AM on Monday, June 9, 2008, by William Keatts, DVM, Chair. The meeting was held in Conference Room One, at the Department of Health, Center Point Corporate Park, 20435 72nd Avenue South, Kent, Washington, 98032.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

William Keatts, DVM, Chair
Willard Nelson, DVM
Harmon Rogers, DVM
Timothy Gintz, DVM (telephonically)
Carmen Czachor, DVM
Holly Bard, Public Member
Deborah Cofer, LVT

STAFF PRESENT:

Judy Haenke, Acting Executive Director
Janette Benham, Program Manager
Janelle Teachman, Disciplinary Manager

OTHERS PRESENT:

Geoff Hymans, Assistant Attorney General
Candace Joy, Washington State Veterinary Medical Association

ORDER OF AGENDA

OPEN SESSION:

9:00 a.m.

Call to Order – William Keatts, DVM, Chair

1. Approval of Agenda
The agenda was approved as written, with the additional of item 6.5 under correspondence, and an additional CE request under item 7.2
2. Approval of the March 3, 2008, minutes
The minutes were approved as written.

Reports - Information

3. William Keatts, DVM, Chair
Dr. Keatts introduced new board member, Dr. Carmen Czachor. Dr. Czachor is the owner of Family Veterinary Clinic in Port Angeles.
Dr. Keatts encouraged either Dr. Gintz or Dr. Czachor to attend the 2008 American Association of Veterinary State Boards (AAVSB) annual meeting and conference. The meeting will be in Newport Beach, CA. Dr. Nelson attended in 2007 and gave an example of the types of subjects, lectures, and trainings offered.
4. Judy Haenke, Acting Executive Director
Ms. Haenke reported on the following:
 - The Department of Health has been working to decrease the backlog of applications and renewals. Ms. Haenke went over the steps in the credentialing process.
 - The reorganization process presented to the board at the December Board meeting will be completed by July.HB 1103 allows the board the option to include more information regarding cases in the annual report to the legislature.
5. Janette Benham, Program Manager
Ms. Benham reported on the following:

Recruitment efforts to fill one vacancy on the board are ongoing. A list of potential candidates has been submitted to the Governor's office for review.
6. **Correspondence**
6.1 – A request was made for clarification regarding a Licensed Veterinary Technician performing home euthanasia for clients off-site and on a referral basis. After discussion, the board determined that there may be significant risks involved if a LVT provided euthanasia off-site. The LVT and the supervising veterinarian would need to ensure that RCW, WAC, and any federal regulations regarding veterinarians, veterinary technicians, and controlled substances were adhered to.
6.2 – A request was made for a list of all licensed veterinarians from Friends of Jim Vaughn for Congress. After discussion, the board denied the request.
Requests for lists can only be approved for:
 - Professional associations that represent the interests of a profession, develop criteria for competent practice, and advance cases that will improve the quality of care to the public.
 - Educational organizations accredited or approved which either prepares professionals for initial licensure or provides continuing education for health care professionals.6.3 – A request was made for the board to consider allowing clients the option of keeping x-rays they have purchased, and allowing clients the opportunity to keep a full copy of their records before they are destroyed after three years. After discussion and consideration, the board determined that x-rays can be

accurately copied. A person may make a request for an x-ray at the point the record will be destroyed.

6.4 – A request was made for a list of all licensed veterinarians from Integrated Pharma Technologies. After discussion the board denied the request. The denial was based on the information being used for commercial purposes to verify licenses. The most up to date license verification information is available on the Department of Health's website under Provider Credential Search.

6.5 – A request was made for approval of CE credits for Licensed Veterinary Technicians. The board was asked to approve credits prior to the rule being in effect. After discussion, the board determined the request would be reconsidered after the rule is in effect.

7. Continuing Education

7.1 – There were no requests received for extension of reporting period.

7.2 – Requests for approval of continuing education courses.

- A request was reviewed and denied for approval of a Dog Behavior and Behavior Modification course.
- A request was reviewed and approved for a presentation titled *Improving NSAID Safety and Client Compliance Through Lowest Effective Dosing*. The presentation was approved for one hour continuing education.
- A request was reviewed and approved for a presentation titled NSAIDs and Pain: Acute, Chronic, Managed. The presentation was approved for two hours continuing education.
- A request was reviewed and approved for the 10th Annual Tri-State Veterinary Dermatology Conference. The course content was approved for seven hours continuing education.

8. Signature Authorization

The board reviewed and updated the form required to give signature authorization to Department of Health staff. Signature authorization includes rules, credentialing, and disciplinary cases

9. 10:00 a.m. Rules Hearing Chapter 246-935-270, 280, 290, 300, and 310 WAC Veterinary Technician Continuing Education Requirements – WSR 08-09-103

The rules hearing was conducted by Dr. Keatts regarding continuing education for veterinary technicians. No comments or questions were received from the audience. No written comments were received by DOH staff prior to the hearing. The rules will be effective 31 days after they are filed with the Code Reviser's Office.

The rules establish 30 hours of continuing education every three years. They also designate organizations as approved providers of continuing education for veterinary technicians. The rules allow up to ten hours every three years of self study activities and include journal reading and courses offered electronically.

11:00 AM Rules Update

10. WAC 246-935-010 Definitions, 040 Responsibilities, and 050 Animal Health Care Tasks

Dr. Susan Wedam presented the current draft from the Animal Health Care Tasks Committee to the board for review and approval to send out for comment. The Animal Health Care Tasks Committee was formed to clarify and update animal health care tasks. Meetings to revise the rules were open public meetings and meeting notices were sent out on the list serve. Public comments received were presented to the board. The board suggested a few revisions and gave approval for the proposed rules with revisions to be sent out for public comment.

11. WAC 246-935 Qualifying Practical Experience

Dr. Gintz updated the board regarding progress of rules development for tasks to be completed by veterinary technicians during the period of practical experience. The board reviewed a draft of proposed rules and discussed the progress of developing task lists for each category. Each category in rule will have a corresponding task list that can be modified as needed. The board will review and approve modifications without having to change the rule. The committee will continue developing rules to complete task lists. The rules and task lists will be presented to the board prior to being sent for public comment.

12. Information

Report on current status of rulemaking

12.1 – WAC 246-933 Specialty Licensure. The CR 102 packet is in process. It is anticipated this will be on the agenda for the October 2, 2008 meeting in Spokane.

12.2 -- Licensing Fees. Licensing fees will be changing for some professions effective August 1, 2008. Staff discussed the FAQs with the board.

12.3 – Board of Pharmacy rule making petition regarding the administration of sodium pentobarbital and legend drugs by animal control agencies and humane societies. The board discussed the proposed rules and suggested that the concentration of pentobarbital needed to be clarified and suggested limiting the drugs animal control agencies and humane societies use to legend drugs only, and not allow the use of controlled substances. The board also requested any updates or revisions be sent on the list serve.

Lunch 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Presentations

13. Ethics in public Service Act

Geoff Hymans, Assistant Attorney General provided training and information regarding the Ethics in Public Service Act. The Ethics in Public Service Act is covered in RCW 42.52; WAC 292-100, 110, 120, and 130. The topics covered in the training included basic ethical principles, use of state resources, gifts, gratuities, and things of value, conflicts of interest, outside employment, honoraria, confidential information, public records disclosure, assisting persons with state transactions, and post-state employment.

14. Below Threshold Criteria for Profession-Specific Allegations and Sanction Guidelines

Janelle Teachman, Disciplinary Manager provided information regarding Below Threshold Criteria for Profession-Specific Allegations and Sanction Guidelines. Below Threshold Criteria for Profession-Specific Allegations are allegations or actions that pose little or no risk to patient or public safety. Boards may add to profession-specific list. Ms. Teachman reported on how professions are doing complying with sanction guidelines each quarter. The Veterinary Board was in compliance with sanction guidelines.

15. AAVSB Policy Update

The AAVSB has updated their policy regarding eligibility to sit for the VTNE. The AAVSB policy states that after December 31, 2010, a candidate must be a graduate of a veterinary technology program accredited by the AVMA or the CVMA or a program approved by the regulatory board of the jurisdiction where the examination is given. The board reviewed and discussed how this might affect practical experience candidates. The board determined that Washington will continue to allow practical experience candidates to sit for the VTNE. Recent legislation (HB 1331) directs the development of practical experience tasks veterinary technicians must complete in the period of practical experience.

16. WSVMA request for clarification regarding controlled substances

The WSVMA requested the laws and rules that would need to be amended as they are interested in requesting legislation that would allow licensed veterinary technicians to prepare and administer controlled substances to animal patients. Geoff Hymans discussed RCW 69.50 Uniform Controlled Substance Act.

17. Open Forum

No additional comments were received from the audience.

3:00 p.m. CLOSED SESSION

18. Discussion of Jurisprudence Examination for Veterinarians and Veterinary Technicians

19. Disciplinary Case Review

20. Other Closed Session Business

Meeting was adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

APPROVED: _____
William Keatts, DVM, Chair